

§ 4.38

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that merchandise under the terms and conditions of his international carrier or custodial bond, as applicable.

(e) If the bonded warehouse operator fails to take possession of unentered and unreleased merchandise or baggage within five calendar days after receipt of notification of the presence of such merchandise or baggage under this section, he may be liable for the payment of liquidated damages under the terms and conditions of his custodial bond (see §113.63(a)(1) of this chapter). If the port director finds that the warehouse operator cannot accept the goods because they are required by law to be exported or destroyed (see §127.28 of this chapter), or for other good cause, the goods will remain in the custody of the arriving carrier or other party to whom the goods have been transferred under a Customs-authorized permit to transfer or in-bond entry. In this event, the carrier or other party will be responsible under bond for exporting or destroying the goods, as necessary (see §§113.63(c)(3) and 113.64(b) of this chapter).

(f) In ports where there is no bonded warehouse authorized to accept general order merchandise or if merchandise requires specialized storage facilities which are unavailable in a bonded facility, the port director, after having received notice of the presence of unentered merchandise or baggage in accordance with the provisions of this section, shall direct the storage of the merchandise by the carrier or by any other appropriate means.

(g) Whenever merchandise remains on board any vessel from a foreign port more than 25 days after the date on which report of arrival of such vessel was made, the port director, as prescribed in section 457, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1457), may take possession of such merchandise and cause it to be unladen at the expense and risk of the owners of the merchandise. Any merchandise so unladen shall be sent forthwith by the port director to a general order warehouse and stored at the risk and expense of the owners of the merchandise.

(h) Merchandise taken into the custody of the port director pursuant to section 490(b), Tariff Act of 1930, as

amended (19 U.S.C. 1490(b)), shall be sent to a general order warehouse after 1 day after the day the vessel was entered, to be held there at the risk and expense of the consignee.

[T.D. 98-74, 63 FR 51287, Sept. 25, 1998, as amended by T.D. 02-65, 67 FR 68032, Nov. 8, 2002]

§ 4.38 Release of cargo.

(a) No imported merchandise shall be released from Customs custody until a permit to release such merchandise has been granted. Such permit shall be issued by the port director only after the merchandise has been entered and, except as provided for in §141.102(d) or part 142 of this chapter, the duties thereon, if any, have been estimated and paid. Generally, the permit shall consist of a document authorizing delivery of a particular shipment or an electronic equivalent. Alternatively, the permit may consist of a report which lists those shipments which have been authorized for release. This alternative cargo release notification may be used when the manifest is not filed by the carrier through the Automated Manifest System, the entry has been filed through the Automated Broker Interface, and Customs has approved the cargo for release without submission of paper documents after reviewing the entry data submitted electronically through ABI and its selectivity criteria (see §143.34). The report shall be posted in a conspicuous area to which the public has access in the customhouse at the port of entry where the cargo was imported.

(1) Where the cargo arrives by vessel, the report shall consist of the following data elements:

- (i) Vessel name or code, if transmitted by the entry filer;
- (ii) Carrier code;
- (iii) Voyage number, if transmitted by the entry filer;
- (iv) Bill of lading number;
- (v) Quantity released; and
- (vi) Entry number (including filer code).

(2) Where the cargo arrives by air, the report shall consist of the following data elements:

- (i) Air waybill number;
- (ii) Quantity released;

(iii) Entry number (including filer code);

(iv) Carrier code; and

(v) Flight number, if transmitted by the entry filer.

(3) In the case of merchandise traveling via in-bond movement, the report will contain the following data elements:

(i) Immediate transportation bond number;

(ii) Carrier code;

(iii) Quantity released; and

(iv) Entry number (including filer code).

When merchandise is released without proper permit before entry has been made, the port director shall issue a written demand for redelivery. The carrier or facility operator shall redeliver the merchandise to Customs within 30 days after the demand is made. The port director may authorize unentered merchandise brought in by one carrier for the account of another carrier to be transferred within the port to the latter carrier's facility. Upon receipt of the merchandise the latter carrier assumes liability for the merchandise to the same extent as though the merchandise had arrived on its own vessel.

(b) When packages of merchandise bear marks or numbers which differ from those appearing on the Cargo Declaration, Customs Form 1302, of the importing vessel for the same packages and the importer or a receiving bonded carrier, with the concurrence of the importing carrier, makes application for their release under such marks or numbers, either for consumption or for

transportation in bond under an entry filed therefor at the port of discharge from the importing vessel, the port director may approve the application upon condition that (1) the contents of the packages be identified with an invoice or transportation entry as set forth below and (2) the applicant furnish at his own expense any bonded cartage or lighterage service which the granting of the application may require. The application shall be in writing in such number of copies as may be required for local Customs purposes. Before permitting delivery of packages under such an application, the port director shall cause such examination thereof to be made as will reasonably identify the contents with the invoice filed with the consumption entry. If the merchandise is entered for transportation in bond without the filing of an invoice, such examination shall be made as will reasonably identify the contents of the packages with the transportation entry.

(c) If the port director determines that, in a port or portion of a port, the volume of cargo handled, the incidence of theft or pilferage, or any other factor related to the protection of merchandise in Customs custody requires such measures, he shall require as a condition to the granting of a permit to release imported merchandise that the importer or his agent present to the carrier or his agent a fully executed pickup order in substantially the following format, in triplicate, to obtain delivery of any imported merchandise:

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is authorized to pick up the
merchandise indicated
below

COD ☐ Bank release ☐ Collect ☐

Broker Name and Authorized Signature (if applicable)

Marks and numbers	Pcs.	Description of goods	Entry No.	Importing carrier and AWB Number or B/L Number	Signature and date of receiving carrier	Remarks
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Delivered quantities verified _____
Customs officer badge No. _____

Date _____

(d) When the provisions of paragraph (c) of this section are invoked by the port director and verification of delivered quantities by Customs is required, a permit to release merchandise shall be effective as a release from Customs custody at the time that the delivery of the merchandise covered by the pickup order into the physical possession of a subsequent carrier or an importer or the agent of either is completed under the supervision of a Customs officer, and only to the extent of the actual delivery of merchandise described in such pickup order as verified by such Customs officer.

§ 4.39 Stores and equipment of vessels and crews' effects; unloading or loading and retention on board.

(a) The provisions of § 4.30 relating to unloading under a permit on Customs Form 3171 are applicable to the unloading of articles, other than cargo or baggage, which have been laden on a vessel outside the Customs territory of the United States, regardless of the trade in which the vessel may be engaged at the time of unloading, except that such provisions do not apply to such articles which have already been entered.

(b) Any articles other than cargo or baggage landed for delivery for consumption in the United States shall be treated in the same manner as other imported articles. A notation as to the landing of such articles, together with the number of the entry made therefor, shall be made on the vessel's store list, but such notation shall not subject the articles to the requirement of being included in a post entry to the manifest.

(c) Bags or dunnage constituting equipment of a vessel may be landed temporarily and reloaded on such vessel under Customs supervision without entry.

(d) Articles claimed to be sea or ships' stores which are in excess of the reasonable requirements of the vessel